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PATENT
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L. Paul
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Phyllis Leithem et al.
Application : 09/863,585
Filed : May 16, 2001
For : ABSORBENT PRODUCTS AND METHODS OF THEIR
PREPARATION THEREOF (by Preliminary Amendment)
Group Art Unit : 1731
Examiner : N/A

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicants respectfully submit this Information Disclosure Statement and accompanying PTO 1449 forms pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98 to comply with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

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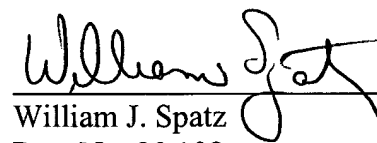
This Information Disclosure Statement is not a representation that the documents cited in the attached PTO-1449 form are considered most pertinent, or that a search has been undertaken, or that any of the cited documents is indeed prior art. The Examiner is invited to undertake an independent search.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and make of record the identified documents. Applicants further request that a copy of the Form PTO-1449, appropriately initialed by the Examiner, be returned to Applicants' attorney.

Pursuant to Rule 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), an Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office if filed before the mailing date of the first Official Action on the merits. As this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing of a first Official Action on the merits, no fee is believed to be necessary for it. However, if any fee is found to be due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fee, or credit any overpayment in such fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0540.

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